GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6475
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
REPORT ON BOTTLED WATER
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi (CSE) is an accredited laboratory under PFA;

(b) the details of each test method/process used by CSE in relation to its recent Report on bottled water;

(c) whether test findings of certain brand samples taken in Mumbai were not published by CSE;

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that test methods used by CSE for testing bottled water is in accordance with those specified under latest Euro norms; and

(e) the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) As per their report, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi have used a methodology approved by the United States Environment Protection Agency (USEPA) for extraction. Analysis was done by Gas chromatograph (GC) with electron-capture detector using a capillary column.

(c) Test findings of samples of certain brands of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water taken in Mumbai by CSE have been published in their report.

(d)&(e) In the directive issued by EEC on drinking water, the method of analysis to be used has not been given. However, the method of analysis used by CSE in the studies is the method prescribed by USEPA which is an internationally recognised method of analysis.